

# This is an official **CDC HEALTH UPDATE**

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## **Public Health Statement Regarding Space Shuttle Debris**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) are providing technical support for the Federal response to the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster.

CDC and ATSDR are also providing information about the possible health effects of shuttle debris to state health departments on or near the shuttle flight path and therefore possible sites for debris.

CDC and ATSDR support the NASA messages to protect public health: Anyone who finds suspected debris should stay away from it and avoid touching it. If suspected debris is found, call 800-525-5555 or local law enforcement officials.

General information about the health effects of a variety of hazardous materials, including fuel propellants, is available at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>

*The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protects people's health and safety by preventing and controlling diseases and injuries; enhances health decisions by providing credible information on critical health issues; and promotes healthy living through strong partnerships with local, national and international organizations.*

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**